Minnesota Forest Resources Council Update for TPA Board of Directors

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Minnesota Forest Resources Council

June 10, 2011

Major MFRC Activities in 2011

Appointments: By 6/30, Governor likely to appoint new Chair and reappointment eight current members, including Dale and Wayne

Forest Policy: 9/28-29 MFRC meeting to set policy direction for next four years

Landscape Program: On 5/25, MFRC approved initiation of NE landscape plan update, contingent on funding

Site-level Program: Revision of forest management guidelines continues

Guideline Revision

- Guideline evolution
 - first published in 1999
 - revised in 2005
 - biomass guidelines in 2007
- Most recent revision initiated in 2010
 - Riparian guidelines as driver
- Other topics from scoping process
 - leave trees, rutting, infrastructure, invasive species, biomass guidelines
 - field guide development





Revision Process and Timeline

| Task | Date |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Scoping | January – June 2010 |
| Evaluation | Sept. 2010 – Sept. 2011 |
| Council preliminary decision | December 2011 |
| Peer and public review | Jan March 2012 |
| Economic analysis | March – June 2012 |
| Final revisions accepted | Sept. 2012 |
| Publish new guidelines | End of 2012 |

Process for Revision

- Evaluation/recommendation by site-level committee
- Utilize existing information (e.g., monitoring)
- Technical guidance as needed
- Goal for consensus, but not requisite
- Final decision by full Council

Site-level Committee

| Committee member | Representing |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Dave Parent, Chair | Private landowners |
| Dale Erickson | Loggers |
| Bob Lintelmann | Indian Affairs Council |
| Gene Merriam | Environmental orgs. |
| Shawn Perich | Game species orgs. |
| John Rajala | Secondary wood products |
| Mary Richards | Resort and tourism |

Topic Schedule

| Meeting date | Topics |
|----------------|--|
| Oct. 27, 2010 | Water diversion / erosion control Infrastructure guidelines Conifer retention guideline |
| Jan. 12, 2011 | Leave tree guidelines Biomass guidelines (begin) |
| April 14, 2011 | Biomass guidelines Leave tree guidelines (end) |
| May 11, 2011 | Biomass guidelines (end) Rutting metric / site disturbance Invasive species guidelines (begin) |
| June 22, 2011 | Invasive species guidelines (end) Riparian guidelines (begin) |
| July 13, 2011 | Riparian guidelines (end) |
| Sept. 14, 2011 | Field guide development |

2011 Guideline Monitoring

Site selection

- sites cut between fall 2009-2010

| Category | Harvest | Target # | |
|------------|---------|----------|--|
| | share | sites | |
| County | 22% | 20 | |
| Federal | 6% | 6 | |
| Industrial | 12% | 11 | |
| NIPF | 28% | 24 | |
| State | 29% | 26 | |
| Tribal | 3% | 3 | |

Fieldwork

- same contractor from previous 3 cycles
- site visits from May-June 2011
- Final report by January 2012





MFRC Funding, Fiscal Years 2007-13*

| 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| \$780 | \$780 | \$780 | \$727 | \$707 | \$580** | \$580** |

- Funding includes state General Fund appropriations only
- ** Projected FY 2012 and 2013 funding, contingent on budget agreement

Projected \$200,000 (26 percent) reduction in funding since FY 2009 will make it hard to meet statutory mandates for all program areas, including site-level monitoring

Questions?